

PETUNIA PLANT NAMED 'SUNBELPISUPU'

Botanical/commercial classification:

Petunia hybrida/Petunia Plant

5 Varietal denomination: cv. 'Sunbelpisupu'

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

10 The present invention relates to the new variety of
Petunia plant originated from crossing of a Petunia
hybrid variety called 'Sunbelki' as the female parent and
'W12' as the male parent.

15 The Petunia is a very popular plant that is used for
flower bedding and potting in the summer season. There
are only a few Petunia developed series of small flower
petunias, such as, 'SUNTORY SP-R' (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
9557), 'Sunberubu' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9754),
'Sunbelchipi' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,355) and
20 'Sunbelki' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,558) are of the
spreading type, a medium plant height, abundant
branching, and a high resistance to heat and rain and
disease. However there are only a few varieties having a
great profusion of flowers, yellowish white with reddish
25 purple vein, a very small flower size and a high
resistance to rain, heat, and disease. Accordingly, this
invention was aimed at obtaining a new Petunia variety
having yellowish white colored with deep reddish purple
vein, and very small flowers, combined with the above
30 features.

Progress

35 The female parent 'Sunbelki' (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
11,558) used in the crossing of 'Sunbelpisupu' is a
cultivar grown at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, having
a spreading growth habit with abundant branching. It has

small single flowers, the petals having a bright yellow color.

5 The male parent 'W12' (unpatented) used in the crossing of 'Sunbelpisupu' is a strain of our breeding lines, having a spreading growth habit with many branches. It has small single flowers, the petals having a white color.

10 In April 2000, crossing of 'Sunbelki' as the female parent and 'W12' as the male parent was conducted at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan. In September 2000, 50 seedlings were obtained from that crossing. These seedlings were grown in pots in glasshouses and were
15 evaluated from April 2001. One seedling was selected in view of its growth habit, flower size and color in September 2001. That seedling was propagated by cutting and a trial was carried out by flower potting and bedding from April to October 2002. The botanical characteristics
20 of that plant were then examined, using similar varieties 'Sunbelki' and 'Sunbelchipi' for comparison. As a result, it was concluded that this Petunia plant is distinguishable from any other variety, whose existence is known to us, and is uniform and stable in its
25 characteristics. Then the new variety of Petunia plant was named 'Sunbelpisupu'.

30 In the following description, the color-cording is in accordance with the Horticultural Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S. Colour Chart).

SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

35 This new variety is unlike any Petunia commercially available as evidenced by the following unique combinations of characteristics.

1. Spreading growth habit with abundant branching.
2. Having a great profusion of blooms with the entire plant remaining in bloom for a considerable period of time.
- 5 3. The flowers are single and small. The petal color is yellow white (R.H.S. 159D) with deep reddish purple (R.H.S. N78A) vein.
4. The plant has a high resistance to rain, cold, heat and disease.

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The new variety 'Sunbelpisupu' differs from the similar variety 'Sunbelchipi' in the following points.

1. The leaf of 'Sunbelpisupu' is smaller than that of 'Sunbelchipi'.
- 15 2. The flower of 'Sunbelpisupu' is larger than that of 'Sunbelchipi'.
3. The petal color of 'Sunbelpisupu' is yellowish white (R.H.S. 159D) with deep reddish purple (R.H.S. N78A) vein. That of 'Sunbelchipi' is vivid purplish red
- 20 (R.H.S. N57A).
4. The inside color of the corolla throat of 'Sunbelpisupu' is vivid yellow (R.H.S. 14B). That of 'Sunbelchipi' is strong yellow (R.H.S. 9A).
5. The outside color of the corolla throat of
- 25 'Sunbelpisupu' is light greenish yellow (R.H.S. 7D) with moderate reddish purple (R.H.S. 79D) vein. That of 'Sunbelchipi' is brilliant greenish yellow (R.H.S. 5C).
6. The apex shape of petal of 'Sunbelpisupu' is truncate. That of 'Sunbelchipi' is obtuse.

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The new variety 'Sunbelpisupu' differs from the similar variety 'Sunbelki' in the following points.

1. The leaf of 'Sunbelpisupu' is smaller than that of 'Sunbelki'.
- 35 2. The flower of 'Sunbelpisupu' is larger than that of 'Sunbelki'.
3. The petal color of 'Sunbelpisupu' is yellowish

white (R.H.S. 159D) with deep reddish purple (R.H.S. N78A) vein. That of 'Sunbelki' is bright yellow (R.H.S. 12A).

4. The inside color of the corolla throat of
5 'Sunbelpisupu' is vivid yellow (R.H.S. 14B). That of
'Sunbelki' is strong brown (R.H.S. 166B).

5. The outside color of the corolla throat
'Sunbelpisupu' is light greenish yellow (R.H.S. 7D) with
moderate reddish purple (R.H.S. 79D) vein. That of
10 'Sunbelki' is greenish yellow (R.H.S. 4C) with dark
reddish purple (R.H.S. 166A) vein.

The new variety of Petunia Plant 'Sunbelpisupu' was
asexually reproduced by the use of cuttings at Yokaichi-
15 shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and homogeneity and stability
thereof were confirmed. The instant plant retains its
distinctive characteristics and reproduces true to type
in successive generations.

20 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The depicted plants had been reproduced by the use
of cuttings and were photographed during September 2002
while growing outdoors in 24cm pots at an age of
25 approximately 8 months at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan.

FIG. 1 illustrates a typical plant of the new
variety of Petunia plant 'Sunbelpisupu' while growing in
a pot.

30 FIG. 2 illustrates a close view of typical blossoms
of the new variety of Petunia plant 'Sunbelpisupu'.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETY

35 The botanical characteristics of the new and
distinct variety of Petunia plant named 'Sunbelpisupu'
are as follows when observed during December at Yokaichi-

shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, at an age of approximately 11 months.

Plant:

5 Growth habit. - Spreading.

Plant height. - Approximately 21.6 cm.

Spreading area of plant. - Approximately 59.0cm.

10 Blooming period. - Mid-April to late October in the southern Kanto area, Japan. The plant shape does not change throughout this period.

Stem:

Length. - Approximately 5.0 cm.

Thickness. - Approximately 1.6 mm.

Pubescence. - Normal.

15 Branching. - Abundant branching, especially secondary branches are.

Internode length. - Approximately 1.2 cm.

Color. - R.H.S. 144B, 200C (strong yellow-green, grayish-brown).

20 Leaf:

Whole shape. - Lanceolate. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. - Approximately 2.6 cm.

Width. - Approximately 0.8 cm.

25 Color. - Upper and lower side color is R.H.S. 144A (strong yellow green).

Thickness. - Approximately 0.3 mm.

Pubescence. - Normal.

Flower:

30 Facing direction. - Slanted upward.

Type. - Single.

Shape. - Funnel-shape, with five-fissured limb.

Shape of petal tip. - Truncate.

Lobation. - Shallow

35 Waving of petal. - Weak.

Diameter. - Approximately 3.2 cm.

Color. - Petal; R.H.S. 159D (yellow white) with R.H.S.

N78A (deep reddish purple) midvein. Inside color of the corolla throat is vivid yellow (R.H.S. 14B). Outside color of the corolla throat is light greenish yellow (R.H.S. 7D) with moderate reddish purple (R.H.S. 79D) vein.

Reproductive organs. - 1 normal pistil and 5 normal stamens. The stigma is club-shaped and R.H.S. N144D (light yellow green) in coloration. The style is approximately 8 mm in length and R.H.S. 145B (brilliant yellow green) in coloration. The ovary is R.H.S. N144D (light yellow green) in coloration. The stamens commonly are of variable length from approximately 4.0 to 1.0 mm. Pollen is formed in a quantity that is typical of *Petunia hybrida* and is near R.H.S. 21A (vivid orange yellow) in coloration.

Fertility. - Fertile, but self-incompatible.

Peduncle. - Approximately 0.5 mm in diameter and approximately 1.1 cm in length. The texture is smooth.

Calyx. - Narrow. 5 sepals in fused at the base.

Seeds. - R.H.S. N186A (strong red) in coloration, approximately 0.6 mm in diameter, and generally round. The quantity is typical of *Petunia hybrida*.

Physiological and ecological characteristics:

High resistance to cold, heat, rain and disease, such as Powdery mildew. The resistance to heat and rain is very strong.

This new variety of *Petunia* plant is most suitable for flower bedding and potting, particularly in hanging pots or planters. Pinching of old blossoms will enhance the formation of new blossoms.